Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Sunday 20 Feb 2022 until 23:59 on Monday 21 Feb 2022

Forecast Issued on Sunday 20 Feb 2022 at 02:47

Confidence: High for unsettled and often windy or very windy weather with spells of mild air, soon followed by colder conditions, but lower confidence for timings of precipitation.

Headline for Sunday 20 Feb 2022: Wet and windy, stormy at height with some very heavy and squally rain possible in afternoon, before clearing to wintry showers around dusk, then colder.

Mountain weather hazards on Sunday 20 Feb 2022

Blizzards Medium Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** Medium Likelihood	**Storm force winds** Medium Likelihood
Gales High Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** High Likelihood
Thunderstorms Low Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** High Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Sleet	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow
Precipitation probability					
>95%	60%	>95%	>95%	60%	40%

Forecast for Sunday 20 Feb 2022

Weather: Wet and windy with gales or severe gales on most slopes and periods of heavy rain making underfoot conditions very difficult, but there could be a drier spell in the morning. Some very heavy and squally rain likely in afternoon, possibly accompanied by hail and thunder and turning to sleet or snow over the summits before clearing mid-afternoon. Perhaps some brightness before sun goes down, then a few clear spells in evening, but staying mostly cloudy with blustery, wintry showers and blizzard conditions at times.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Little chance for much of the day, rising to 40% late afternoon

Low cloud and visibility: Moderate or poor beneath cloud much of the day, but very good from late afternoon, though quickly lowering to a kilometre or less in wintry showers and near zero in blizzard conditions. Very poor visibility at height for much of the day, with persistent cloud above 400-600m, but mostly broken above 600-800m from late afternoon.

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Met Office Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Sunday 20 Feb 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	57/68 SW	54/68 SW	41/55 W	41/55 W	49/65 W	48/66 W	44/60 W
600	44/56 SW	42/56 SW	33/48 W	35/51 W	39/56 W	40/59 W	37/55 W
300	13/45 SW	15/45 SW	15/40 W	17/44 W	19/49 W	20/50 W	18/46 W
Valley	15/44 SW	18/45 SW	19/40 W	17/38 W	19/44 W	23/49 W	22/46 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	4/-4	5/-3	4/-4	0/-8	-3/-14	-4/-16	-4/-14
600	6/-1	6/-0	5/-1	2/-5	-1/-10	-2/-12	-2/-11
300	7/4	7/4	7/4	5/0	1/-5	0/-6	1/-5
Valley	8/5	9/5	9/5	7/3	4/-1	3/-3	4/-2
Freezing Level*	1800m	1700m	1500m	900m	400m	200m	300m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Stormy at height, making for difficult movement and dangerous conditions with high risk of being blown over. Mild during most daylight hours, but some chill effect with rain and gale or severe gale force winds and becoming colder later.

Forecast for Monday 21 Feb 2022

Weather: Cloudy overnight and becoming stormy again with showers merging to longer spells of rain or snow, but snow level lifting to the summits by the morning. Then a cloudy, wet and windy start with occasionally heavy rain and summit snow but this will die out through the morning and cloud will lift and become more broken. Some sunshine in the afternoon as cloud breaks up further but a few wintry showers too. Then clear periods in evening but high cloud increasing from the west.

Maximum wind: Westerly winds turning northwest in morning, 40-50 gusts 60mph, but 65 possibly 75mph gusts 90mph over higher ridges and summits. Gradually easing 25-30 gusts 40mph through the afternoon and becoming southwesterly in evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 10%, becoming 40% by the afternoon and 80% by the end of the day.

Low cloud and visibility: Mainly good or very good but sometimes poor in precipitation and very poor at height where in cloud, this rather extensive for much of the morning, above 500 or 600m, but occasionally lower in rain. Becoming broken above 600-800m in the afternoon and mainly scattered cloud over the summits by the evening.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 3 or 4 C at first rising to plus 8 or 9 C
At 800m: Minus 5 C rising to zero C
Freezing level: 200 or 300m in early hours, becoming 800m by morning

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Saturday 19 February. Location: Helvellyn summit at 14:00. Full report: A beautiful day in the Lakeland fells with cloud clearing many of the higher summits in the morning leaving the majority of the day with blue skies and light winds. Inversion conditions were present over the south of the county. The snow level this morning was down to around 300-400 meters although this lifted slightly through the day with some south-facing slopes being more affected. The freezing level today was around 500-600m and above this altitude, the ground was partially frozen and icy in places. Snow increases with height but varies in distribution from very little over high and exposed ground, to drifts of 60cm+ in places. On average it is around 10cm deep.

The majority of snow is generally found on steep north and east-facing slopes above 800m. In these locations, windslab deposits are present on top of older patches of névé (old refrozen snow) and may not be very well bonded. Some small and soft cornices have also formed around corrie rims in some areas and should be given berth. Striding and Swirral edge are a mixture of snow and exposed rock. An ice axe and crampons/microspikes are essential for anyone planning these or similar steep/exposed routes in the area. Full winter clothing (warm and waterproof) including hats and gloves, and equipment including a map, compass, and headtorch are essential items for anyone venturing out into the fells. High winds are in the forecast tomorrow so goggles are also recommended for navigating in poor conditions. Temperature: minus 2.2C, Maximum wind speed 18.1mph, Wind chill: minus 10.5C, Average wind speed: 13.3mph.

Issued at: 02:47 on Sun 20 Feb 2022

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